

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

AMERICAN PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY.

VOL. X.

JANUARY, 1865.

No. 73.

Stated Meeting, January 6, 1865.

Present, nine members.

Dr. WOOD, President, in the Chair.

Letters were read from the Natural History Society of Emden, the United States Coast Survey, and Mr. John Biddle, announcing donations for the Library.

Donations for the Library were received from Mr. John Biddle, of Philadelphia; Mr. Wm. S. Sullivant, of Ohio; the United States Treasury Department; the Royal Astronomical Society; the Director of the Mint, and Prof. Zantedeschi, of Padua.

A letter from Otto Struve, dated Pulkova, Dec. 1, 1864, announced the death of a member of the Society, F. G. W. Struve, at St. Petersburg, Nov. 11 (23), 1864, aged 71. Prof. Kendall was appointed to prepare an obituary notice of the deceased.

The decease of Hon. Geo. M. Dallas, at Philadelphia, Dec. 31, 1864, aged 72, was announced by Judge Sharswood, and on motion, Mr. J. R. Ingersoll was appointed to prepare an obituary notice of the deceased.

On motion, Judge Sharswood was excused from preparing an obituary notice of the late Samuel D. Ingham.

The report of the judges of the annual election of the Society, held this day, was read, and the following named officers were declared duly elected according to the laws, ordinances, and regulations of the Society for the ensuing year :

President.

George B. Wood.

Vice-Presidents.

John C. Cresson,
Isaac Lea,
George Sharswood.

Secretaries.

Charles B. Trego,
E. Otis Kendall,
John L. Le Conte,
J. P. Lesley.

Counsellors for Three Years

Isaac Hayes,
Robert E. Rogers,
H. C. Carey,
Robert Bridges.

Curators.

Franklin Peale,
Elias Durand,
Joseph Carson.

Treasurer.

Charles B. Trego.

Prof. Lesley was nominated Librarian for the ensuing year. Pending nominations, Nos. 529, 530, 531, 532, 533, were read.

On motion of Dr. Coates, a special committee was appointed on the preparation of a medal for the Magellanic Premium, lately awarded, consisting of Dr. Coates, Dr. Wilcocks, and Mr. Peale.

On motion of Dr. Barnes, the thanks of the Society were ordered to be presented to Mr. John Biddle, for his valuable donation of Oriental books presented this evening.

Whereupon the Society was adjourned.

Stated Meeting, January 20, 1865.

Present, seventeen members.

Dr. Wood, President, in the Chair.

A letter was received from President Wayland, dated Providence, R. I., January 15, 1865, enclosing his photograph, and a donation of \$5, towards the expenses of forwarding the Proceedings by mail.

The following letter was received from M. Troyon, dated Lausanne, November 10, 1864, communicating certain facts connected with a reopened Cemetery of the Merovingian era:

M. THE SEC. OF THE AM. PHIL. SOC., PHILADA.

SIR: I have the advantage of informing you of the reception of the Proceedings of the American Philosophical Society, Nos. 69, 70, which have just arrived, and for which I return my thanks.

Having the honor to be a member of your learned Society, you will permit me to say a few words respecting some excavations which I have made during the last few weeks, at my country seat of Bel-Air, near Lausanne, where I have already previously opened more than three hundred tombs of the Merovingian age. The tombs of this vast cemetery, which I discovered in 1838, are arranged in three stories (sout étagées en trois couches) or layers, beneath the surface of the soil. The most ancient is at a depth of five or six feet, while the highest layer is covered with only two feet of earth.